

Elks' Christmas Tree For Children

The Elks' Christmas tree at the Vining Theatre Christmas eve, December 24. The public will recall the delightful event of last year when the Elks presented every child present with candles and toys, and it will be the aim of the committee to make this event even greater than that of last year.

The theatre will be appropriately decorated and two trees will bear the joyous burden of good cheer to all children present. An appropriate children's program will be provided under the direction of Miss Gertrude Engle, and Santa Claus and his assistants will see that every heart present is gladdened by these festivities.

It is desired that every child up to and including thirteen years of age in Ashland and vicinity be registered so that an appropriate present may be selected for them. The registration will open Monday, December 20, at Provost Brothers' store. The age and sex of every child must be given. The committee, with Mrs. Otto Winter as chairman, will solicit the aid of all civic organizations in this registration, and we ask the co-operation of every citizen, that no child may be disappointed at this Yuletide gathering.

Mrs. C. H. Vaupel is in charge of the candy distribution, and an ample amount will be provided for all. All children up to and including thirteen years of age will be admitted free on that night. Adults will be charged 10 cents admission. Watch for Santa Claus that day. He will be at the theatre from morning till night to tell the glad news of Christmas day to all children who will stop and greet him. This will be one big time for all, and all are asked to come and enjoy it.

Sealed Packages Take More Postage

Postmaster E. J. Kaiser issued a warning today that Christmas packages, sealed in any manner, would be subject to first class rate, that is, 2 cents an ounce or fraction.

Packages placed in the postoffice box and sealed are being held up at the postoffice and the sender notified. If the name of the sender does not appear on the package a notice will be sent to the party addressed, and if the postage due is not paid the packages are sent to the dead letter office in Washington.

Packages going fourth class mail must be open to inspection, according to postoffice law. A letter or note of any kind inside a package raises it to first class mail. A letter, however, may be tied on the outside of the package without changing the class of mail.

Postmaster Kaiser said today that fourth class packages are opened frequently by the postoffice authorities and the contents examined. Sealed Christmas packages inside a package that is not sealed also raise the package to first class mail. Christmas decoration stamps should not be placed upon the face of the package.

Mr. Kaiser stated an instance as an example of the rules of the postoffice system. A woman in Eugene recently had to pay almost \$4 postage due on laundry that was sent through the mails by the laundress. A small note in the bundle raised it from fourth to first class mail.

Gold Hill Miner Will Investigate

J. H. Beeman and associates of Gold Hill have leased the molybdenum deposits in Ashland canyon and are now conducting experiments to ascertain its extent and the probabilities of making a paying proposition of developing the prospect. Mining men throughout southern Oregon are greatly interested in the project and will watch developments with interest.

Notice.
All the Ashland stores members of the Merchants' Association will keep their stores open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings of this week to give holiday shoppers an opportunity to supply their Christmas needs.
60-2F

The assessed valuations in the state show a decrease of \$10,406,236 from last year.

NOTICE.

Reports having been circulated that J. B. Ware had received from the city the sum of Five Hundred Dollars for services rendered in connection with acquiring certain lands fronting on Granite and Mill streets in this city, I wish to state in justice to Mr. Ware that never at any time has he demanded of the council payment for such services, nor has he ever received anything on account thereof.

C. CUNNINGHAM,
Chairman Finance Committee.

President Quietly Married Saturday

President Woodrow Wilson and Mrs. Edith Bolling Galt were married Saturday evening at 8:30 o'clock and are enjoying their honeymoon at Hot Springs, Virginia. The wedding was a strictly informal affair, with none present but a few immediate friends and relatives. Less than thirty persons were present at the ceremony. Hundreds of gifts were received by the couple, despite intimations from the White House that nothing should be sent by any other than relatives and close friends. The nation's chief and his wife are at the Homestead Hotel at Hot Springs and will remain until after New Year's day unless unforeseen events call the president back to Washington.

First Basketball Game Tuesday Night

A good sized gallery of militia members and their ladies enjoyed the practice basketball game staged last Thursday evening at the armory. The first team defeated two picked teams from among the company by overwhelming scores. The militia boys have turned out a basketball team which promises to meet and beat all comers this year.

On Tuesday evening of this week the local company team meets the University of Oregon Y. M. C. A. team in the first basketball game of the season at the armory. Following the game a social time will be enjoyed by the visitors and the young people of Ashland. The militia team will probably line up with Freeman at center, Millard Grubb and Clyde Brown forwards, Larkin Grubb and Ivan O'Donohue guards. This combination has been putting up a surprisingly good class of basketball and is backed to win from the visiting Y. M. C. A. boys, who number several college players among them.

The visiting basketballers meet the high school team in the high school gym Thursday evening.

Much Freight But Few Passengers

Passenger traffic on the Southern Pacific has decreased considerably since the close of the exposition and but seven and eight car trains are run when two and three sections of ten to thirteen cars were necessary during the summer. Railroaders do not anticipate that trains 53 and 54, which were put on to handle the exposition traffic, will be taken off until after Christmas, if at all. It is persistently rumored that if a change is made, these trains will be left on and Nos. 15 and 16 will be taken off.

Freight traffic is holding up and, in fact, getting better every day, with no indications of a letup. Old timers believe the present traffic will continue until the Panama canal is opened up. All of the extra men are busy and times on the road are good. One freight which pulled into Ashland the other evening with five engines carried four firemen who are regular switch engine firemen.

Lumber shipments out of Springfield for October of this year are three times as much as for the same period last year.

Of the total of railroad ties exported during 1914 (over 5,000,000) the state of Washington alone furnished nearly half a million.

Albany will have a new department store about January 1.

TOO IMPORTANT TO ALLOW OF PERSONAL FEELING.

Unfortunately for the springs project, it appears that both candidates filed for the council from the second ward are opposed to the springs project and to the members of the springs water commission. So, no matter which is elected as far as the springs project is concerned. However, there are other issues in this campaign which lead the Tidings to lean to the candidacy of Mr. Cunningham. There is now an undetermined controversy between the Ashland Ice Company and the city over the rate for power which the company is buying from the city. The city claims the ice company is being furnished power at about fifty per cent of what it costs the city to deliver it. The council has indicated its purpose to raise the rate so the transaction will not lose money for the city. This raise the ice company resists, and some threats have been made to move the plant to Medford, although the rate there is no lower than the city asks here, unless the city was willing to continue to supply power at the old rate. If such matters Mr. Cunningham has proven himself interested in the welfare of the city and has long stood the brunt of the fight for the city electric plant. It is thought by some that if Mr. Root is elected the effort of the city to get a proper rate from the ice company will be blocked. Some say Mr. Root is a stockholder in the ice company, others say he has sold his stock. On this point the Tidings is not informed. However, if the city hopes to have the matter fairly adjusted it certainly should be left to adjustment by an unbiased council. The Tidings feels certain that Mr. Cunningham can be depended upon to care for the city's interests in adjusting the matter. No one has ever charged Councilman Cunningham with corruption or laxness in guarding the city's business interests. The Tidings regrets that both candidates from the second are opposed to the springs water commission. Its hope was that candidates favorable to the project would file. As they have not, it is a choice between these two, and the Tidings favors Mr. Cunningham for the reasons stated above.

Local News in Brief

The case against the two Talent young men who drove an automobile into a wood wagon on the Pacific Highway recently has been dropped, following a settlement with the driver of the wagon.

Harry Hosler and Clyde Costello are sure some fishermen. The Tidings editor had the pleasure of sampling one of their six-pound catch. Such not only fills the stomach, but makes a warm place in our heart.

The Shriners' ceremonial on New Year's day is looked forward to with lively anticipation by those who are fortunate enough to have already crossed the burning sands. Big delegations from out of town points are planning to attend.

The local schools will have but one week of Christmas holidays this year instead of two as in the past. The teachers will attend the meeting of the Oregon Teachers' Association at Medford during vacation. School will close for the summer vacation earlier than last year.

A great many out-of-town patrons of the Vining Theatre attended and enjoyed "Daddy Long-Legs" Tuesday evening. Several parties were up from Medford in private cars and the Interurban ran a special trip with a good-sized load. Fifty-eight cars were parked in front of the theatre when the curtain went up.

Medford Tribune: The Southern Pacific has begun a campaign to impress upon autoists the need of heeding the crossing warnings, which have been in a large measure ignored by local drivers in the past. It will be part of their "safety first" campaign to educate drivers of vehicles to exercise extreme care at crossings.

The turntable in the local yards of the Southern Pacific Company is just barely large enough to accommodate the big "thirty-two hundred" which are used on the mountain run, and on several occasions considerable trouble is experienced in turning the big engines around. Last Wednesday 3228 was derailed and occasioned no little trouble.

The First Company Coast Artillery boys are very anxious that there shall be a good turnout at the basketball game on December 21 in which they will contest with the Y. M. C. A. from Oregon University. The boys are anxious to equip the gymnasium for their newly formed athletic association and will use the net proceeds from this game for that purpose.

"The Woman of Mona Diggings" at the Lyric Theatre last evening was one of the strongest plays presented on the screen in Ashland for some time. Strong not alone in acting and setting; but in that every effect which goes to make up a screen success. The play is full of action, fire, thrilling barroom fights and intense emotional scenes.

The Southern Pacific has a large crew at work erecting commodious car sheds in the local yards to replace those which were blown over during a heavy gale last winter. The structure now going up will be 56 feet by 200 feet and will shelter four tracks. Twenty cars can be accommodated at once. The sheds will be heavily braced to secure against a repetition of the disaster of last winter.

Rev. J. S. Smith brought to the Tidings office Tuesday a number of strawberry plants carrying a wealth

of berries in all stages of development from the bloom to the half ripe berry. They are of the Superb Everbearing variety. Every day from May to November Rev. Smith's family have been supplied from these vines with luscious berries until now on the 14th day of December they are still yielding without indication of desire for rest. Some strawberries, these.

Douglas R. Stewart of Vancouver, B. C., son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Halfhill of this city, has been sent home with 67 other wounded soldiers. It will be remembered that Mr. Stewart was wounded last April in the battle of Ypres. He received a shrapnel wound in the left arm, had his shoulder broken and was badly affected by poisonous gases. He says one can not speak too highly of the wonderful treatment the boys receive in the English hospitals. Mr. Stewart is now in the convalescent hospital in Victoria, B. C.

Cunningham's Statement.

To the Voters of the Second Ward: Late in the evening of the last day for the filing of nominations for councilman, particular friends telephoned me, asking if I would consider a nomination, stating that it was very much desired by many voters of the city. I reluctantly gave my consent, after which a petition was circulated and filed with the city recorder, and in accordance therewith my name has been printed on the official ballot as one of the nominees for councilman from this ward. Upon more deliberate consideration I have thought that owing to the almost total loss of my voice, and the helpless condition of my wife, that the sacrifice and the burden of performing the duties of councilman are too great for me to further assume at this time, especially in view of the fact that I have given eight years' service to the city of Ashland, as councilman, during which time I have spent many days, as well as nights, in the performance of my official duties, and have assumed great responsibilities and borne much unjust criticism, all from a strong sense of duty to my constituents, in the consciousness of doing right, and without hope of reward or other consideration.

After such long and loyal service to the city I now feel that the public should have no further claims on me from an official standpoint, and I shall therefore feel satisfied if all of my friends will kindly refrain from casting their ballots for me at the coming election.

Yours for the continued progress, morality and law enforcement of Ashland,
C. CUNNINGHAM.

A new schooner is being built at St. Helens that will net her owners \$35,000 on her first trip to Australia.

Reports state that there is an influx of settlers to the timbered regions of the Siletz valley.

November 29 Astoria will vote on a \$100,000 bond issue for a new school.

Work on the new evaporating establishment at Dallas has started.

In answer to "Voter's advertisement" in the last issue of the Tidings, we wish to say that we prefer C. W. Root for councilman for the reason that he has all the qualifications for the office that the present incumbent has, and many other sterling qualifications which would be of immense value to the city.
G. F. BILLINGS.
Paid adv. H. L. WHITED.

Tomorrow Is Election Day

In order that there may be no misunderstanding, the attention of every citizen of Ashland is called to the ward boundaries and voting places for tomorrow's election. The first ward includes all below Main street and the voting place is the Fourth street fire hall. The second ward includes all of the territory west of Ashland creek and south of Main street, the voting place being the McCarthy building at the corner of Granite and Main streets. The third ward includes all east of Ashland creek and south of Main street, and the voting place is the city hall.

Every citizen of Ashland, men and women, who has been in the state six months, in the county thirty days and in the ward ten days and is twenty-one years of age is eligible to vote and owes it to their city and their citizenship to vote. The polls are open from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. Tomorrow is the day.

Dr. Blake Heads Valley Dentists

The Southern Oregon Dental Society met Thursday afternoon at the Medford Hotel in Medford. In addition to the discussion of several topics of special interests, reports from the Panama-Pacific dental congress were given.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the society at Ashland in the latter part of next May, the exact date to be fixed later. A complete program will be prepared for that occasion.

The election of officers resulted as follows:
President, Dr. W. E. Blake, Ashland; vice-president, Dr. W. M. Van Scoyoc, Medford; secretary-treasurer, Dr. W. W. Walker, Grants Pass.

Committee on arrangements for the next meeting: Drs. Johnson, Tilton and Blake, Ashland.

Members present: Drs. Walker, Macy, Flanagan, Elliott, Hamilton and Dimmick, Grants Pass; Drs. Riddell, Van Scoyoc and Van Scoyoc, Medford; Drs. Johnson, Tilton, Blake, Hall, Ashland.

After the business session the doctors present enjoyed a sumptuous banquet at the Hotel Medford.

Eugene Compliments Our Publicity Man

Eugene Register.

Excellent work is being done in the way of advertising Ashland, by M. J. Duryea, formerly promotion manager of the Commercial Club of this city, but now handling the publicity work for Ashland. In the short space of five months 47,105 pieces of publicity matter have been sent from his office. This included the little booklet of tumbler-shape design, advertising the mineral springs there.

In addition to sending out the literature and advertising matter, a number of well written articles have been printed in the various magazine publications from Mr. Duryea's pen.

Mr. Duryea is the man behind Ashland's famous outoist camping ground which has caused so much favorable comment from passing tourists this summer. Ashland is up and doing and stands well to bid for its popularity as the "Carlsbad of America."

Nearly seventeen million pounds of wood pulp was exported to Europe from the United States during 1914. Canada ranks second, receiving from the United States over seven million pounds.

Portland firm gets \$80,000 ship contract in competition with Puget Sound yards.

Valley Mines May Furnish Cheap Coal

A company is operating the Sunny-side coal mine, six miles west of Medford, and reports the output of the mine to be rapidly improving as the tunnel is pushed deeper into the mountain. At present all of the coal mined is being disposed of in Medford and no attempt made to advertise it or enlarge the market. The mine is said to have paid expenses of late.

Manager Bulls of the Southern Oregon Traction Company has expressed a willingness to extend his electric line to the mine just as soon as sufficient tonnage shall have been provided to justify the project.

So far all deliveries have been made by team at a cost of \$2.25 a ton. The coal sells at \$8 a ton. Properly handled, it is believed that the coal can be disposed of at \$5 a ton or less. There appears to be an unlimited quantity of coal in sight, with an increasing extent of vein as depth is attained.

An effort is being made at this time to increase the output, supply the tonnage required by the electric line, enlarge the field for marketing the product and advertise the enterprise as a business looking for recognition and support.

It can not be denied that good sized deposits of coal exist in the mountains and hills on the east side of the valley, and it seems far from improbable that the near future will see valley mines furnishing the valley with cheap coal. Some time ago considerable work was done on a mine above the lithia springs on Emigrant creek and fair prospects of good coal found, but when the shaft became full of water, operations were suspended.

Eugene Electric Deal Is Similar

The city of Eugene has purchased the distribution lines of an electric company who were on about the same footing with the Eugene municipal plant as the Ashland company was to the Ashland municipal plant.

The deal effected is somewhat similar to the deal offered in Ashland last August.

The purchase price for the distributing system in Eugene is \$150,000, including the poles, wire and substation equipment. Of this \$50,000 is to be paid in cash. The balance is to be paid at the rate of \$1,250 a month with interest at 5 per cent.

The \$50,000 cash is to be paid from the profits accumulated by the city of Eugene during the past four years. The monthly payments are to be met from the future profits of the acquired business, according to members of the Eugene water board.

The electric rate in Eugene is from approximately 9 cents a kilowatt, while in Ashland the rate varies from 6 cents to 1 cent in proportion to the amount used. It is easily apparent why the Eugene city officials have been able to accumulate \$50,000 and are confident of making the plant pay for the purchase.

Band Beginners Meet Wednesday

Carl Loveland, the newly chosen director of the Ashland band who will organize a class in beginners on band instruments, is meeting with good progress, and a big gathering of the youth of Ashland and their parents is expected at the city hall Wednesday night at 7:30, when plans will be laid for the instruction of the beginners.

Mr. Loveland is hired by the band to instruct beginners and direct practices and will devote most of his time to band work. Everyone in Ashland who wishes to take up a band instrument should meet Mr. Loveland at the city hall Wednesday and talk it over. It is the intention of the band men to develop all of the young talent and beginners during the winter and spring months so that they may become members of the Ashland band next summer. An opportunity for free band instruction such as this is seldom offered, and a big response is anticipated.

The bulk of the railroad ties, exported from the United States is shipped to Canada and Mexico. South America ranks third in the receipt of this material.